Subject: House of Sufism (Boston) Brunch Update March 2014 From: "Mohammad Nooraee" <nimatullahisufiorder@gmail.com> Date: 3/20/2014 2:04 AM To: <wbumpus62@comcast.net>



"O Wise Lord, I wish that with good action and service others and illuminated to by righteousness, good intention, and carefor the wretched and the destitute, I may be joined with you."

-Zoroaster



HAPPENINGS

This past month has provided abundant

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visit our website **Facebook Page**

84 Pembroke Street Boston, MA 02118



A volunteer holding a tray of food generously donated by New XingLong Asian Cafe and Catering in Saugus, MA



A close-up of the plate of Chinese food, including noodles, fried rice, chicken, and fruit.

opportunities for us to show our love for others. March in Boston is a special month, marked by uplifting signs that winter is nearly behind us: robins and cardinals return to sing on leafless branches; tiny green bulbs poke up alongside houses; gentle streams of meltwater trickle down streets once buried in snow. On sunny days the city hums with youthful giddiness, and strangers exchange smiles in tacit celebration of this precious and much awaited turning of the seasons. Hearts and soil thaw in tandem.

While the changing weather may present some reprieve for the homeless, who have had to survive the bitter cold of winter, the transition to warmer and longer days does little on its own to alleviate the pressing needs of hunger, health, and social isolation. To those ends, this month volunteers from House of Sufism have not only prepared and served food at shelters throughout Boston, but also sought to connect with the hearts of those who otherwise may feel alone and forgotten.

In the spirit of the youthful charge of March, this issue of Brunch Update highlights the service of some younger volunteers, who have generously shared some reflections on the meaning of service. We hope that their words energize you with the love, excitement, and inspiration that these volunteers brought to their work.

REFLECTIONS from Volunteers



We wish much love and happiness to all!



Volunteers serve plates of salad and pasta



Linguine with homemade bolognese sauce

How to get involved

1. Volunteer! It is a time commitment of only two hours: 2-4 PM on Sundays. Help us cook and clean or just spend time with our friends!

2. Monetary donations: If you would like to make contribution to House of Sufism Charity Intiaitive, you can write a check (payable to KN), use any credit card, or wire money through PayPal. All your donations are tax-deductible.

Puja, 21, student pursuing degree as physician's assistant:

"It could be a glance, a wave, or a simple smile that uplifts an individual's soul. The truth is, it's not how much we give, but how much we love in giving. When we put the dynamic of love into serving a simple meal to a stranger, that love can go beyond ourselves reaching new heights untouchable. The goal is to let every individual know they are not alone in their fight and that there are others who support, care, and love them."

Sherif, 26, paralegal

"I've always had a special category in my head for "homeless people". They were an "other" that wasn't in any way related to me. But after speaking and eating with the guests at this shelter, I definitely will never think of them the same way again. They are people like me. I felt the warmth of service touch my heart. I realized that this sort of emotion is passed around from person to person."

Sahar, 22, student pursuing graduate degree in social work:

"Overall, volunteering at this shelter was a

If you would like to make a donation, you can mail a check to KNP and include the word "charity" in the space for a memo (our mailing address is 84 Pembroke St., Boston MA 02118), or you can send us money via PayPal (once again, our e-mail address is nimatullahisufiorder@gm ail.com.) and use the link listed below.



Additional Info:

- Events
- Brunch Updates
- Multimedia
- Publications
- Location & Directions

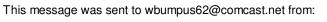
great experience. I understand how crucial it is to have these shelters since one can't do much or expect much from someone who is starving and is lacking some of the most basic and essential things in life, like food, safety, and a home.

For instance, one of the middle-aged men getting food at the shelter seemed happier than many of the other people coming through and with a great big smile he said: 'I slept like a baby last night.' Then one of the volunteers exclaimed: 'But it was so cold outside!' to which the gentlemen replied: 'Oh no, I was very warm. I have a system: I put two blankets, then a cardboard and some more blankets....' There was no response to that."



Volunteers serving at St. Francis House, from the left: Puja, Sahar, Christina, Rasam, Sahar, and Lindsay

"The truth is, it's not howmuch we give, but howmuch we love in giving."



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